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STATE OF DELAWARE
BOARD OF PHARMACY

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PUBLIC MEETING NOTICE: BOARD OF PHARMACY – Patient Safety Committee Meeting

DATE AND TIME: Wednesday, April 15, 2015 9:30 am

PLACE: Conference Room A, 2nd Floor Cannon Building
861 Silver Lake Blvd., Dover, DE 19904

APPROVED: May 20, 2015

MEMBERS PRESENT

Michelle McCreary – Chair
Kenneth Sellers
Tejal Patel, PharmD
Kim Robbins, R.Ph.
Susan Esposito, R.Ph.
Joli Martini, R.Ph.

MEMBERS ABSENT

Hooshang Shanehsaz, R.Ph.

DIVISION STAFF/DEPUTY ATTORNEY GENERAL PRESENT

David Dryden, Executive Secretary
Eileen Kelly, Deputy Attorney General
Christine Mast, Administrative Specialist III

CALL TO ORDER

Ms. McCreary called the meeting to order at 12:05 pm.

NEW BUSINESS

Ms. McCreary opened the meeting with an explanation of the purpose of the committee. The committee is tasked with reviewing Board of Pharmacy Regulation 5.2 patient counseling and Patient Discharge and Continuum of Care issues.

First to be discussed was regulation 5.2. The committee discussed the difficulties in following the patient counseling regulation. There are issues within pharmacy systems software being used that do not properly flag new prescriptions or changes in dosages which cause the pharmacist to counsel previously prescribed prescriptions. The committee discussed different procedures used throughout different pharmacies to identify prescriptions that require counseling as an actual new prescription or changes in dosage to a current prescription. Much discussion occurred regarding the proper procedure in determining which prescription requires counseling and which ones are not required to be counseled based on patient profile information within current systems.

Pharmacist concerns regarding proper breaks were also discussed. Many pharmacists are not being provided the opportunity to take care of personal needs due to the high numbers consultations that are occurring.

Ms. Robbins stated that pharmacists are educated to do counseling and its part of the pharmacist's responsibilities to provide proper counseling.

Ms. Patel suggested there may be a need to develop a technician to pharmacist ratios to assist with the added responsibilities of the counseling regulation.

The committee discussed the possibility of requiring all pharmacies to post a sign for the public to see that states; "The Pharmacist is required to provide counseling on all new prescriptions or changes to current prescriptions" as outlined in regulation 5.2.

The discussion concluded that no changes to regulation 5.2 would be required.

The committee moved their discussion to Patient Discharge and Continuum of Care issues. Currently there is no continuum of care from patients discharged from the hospital to the community pharmacist. In some hospital settings there is a post discharge care team to assist the patient with their discharge. The next step the committee would like to address is getting the community pharmacist involved in the discharge plans from the hospital so that the patient profile at the pharmacy can be updated to include new medications or changes in medications to better serve the patient.

The committee is concerned with the large disconnect between patient discharge information not reaching the pharmacist resulting in patient safety risks. The pharmacist cannot properly advise the patient on medication issues that could occur with changes in medication from a hospital stay. Another concern was raised regarding Urgent Care facilities that dispense prescriptions directly to patients. This is another area of concern that the pharmacist is not aware of prescriptions prescribed to a patient therefore preventing proper patient counseling.

Ms. McCreary will review the pharmacy hospital regulations to see if there is any current regulatory support there to assist with Patient Discharge and Continuum of Care. She will bring this information for discussion to the next meeting. Ms. Esposito will attempt to research information regarding medication requests from area hospitals. She will bring this information to the next meeting for discussion.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

NEXT SCHEDULED MEETING

The next meeting is scheduled for May 20, 2015 at 9:30 Am., Conference Room A 2nd floor.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no other business before the committee. A motion to adjourn was made by Ms. Patel, seconded by Ms. Esposito. The motion unanimously carried at 1:04 pm.

Respectfully submitted,



Christine Mast
Administrative Specialist III
Board of Pharmacy